

Docket No.: 20402-00635-US  
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Hiroto Sumida, et al.

Application No.: 09/973,878

Art Unit: 1728

Filed: October 11, 2001

Examiner: J. Lorengo

For: CONNECTING MEMBER FOR CONNECTING  
CARRIER TAPES AND CARRIER TAPE  
CONNECTING METHOD USING THIS  
CONNECTING MEMBER

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**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MS Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.

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PAGES (Including Cover Sheet): 18

CONTENTS: First Preliminary Amendment (9 pages);  
IDS (Citation) by Applicant (1 page);  
Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages);  
Copies of two references (4 pages); and  
Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8 (1 page).

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